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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A

TOPIC Military Information from Burg

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1C

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] PREPARED 22 May 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. a. Neue Kaserne:

Troops observed on 2 March 1950 wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. About 150 men were seen in close-order drill in the barracks yard. Two groups of 8 to 10 men practiced with wire reels and field telephones of German origin. Another group of soldiers held aiming circle practice.

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b. Alte Kaserne:

A high board fence prevented observation of the inside area. When the gate was opened to let truck [REDACTED] pass through, about 15 tanks with troops doing maintenance work on them were seen in the barracks area (1).

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2. a. Neue Kaserne:

Between 11 March and 5 April 1950 occupied by 600 to 700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with crossed-gun-barrel insignia. More than 100 officers were seen, some with winged-bomb insignia. Ambulance [REDACTED] and trucks with the following

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b. Alte Kaserne:

Occupied by about 700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with tank insignia. About 150 officers were observed. Some old ZIS trucks were exchanged for modern vehicles of US origin

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gate of the barracks was lined with boards to block the view into the barracks area (1).

c. Hospital:

About 50 medical officers and personnel and about 80 patients were in the hospital attached to the Alte Kaserne.

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d. The Soviet residential quarters in Corkistrasse were no longer occupied. About 10 families of officers stationed in the Neue Kaserne were still living in the former civil servants' houses attached to the Neue Kaserne. Four or five other families living there belonged to personnel of the kommandatura or of the MVD. Seven or eight Soviet families were still billeted in the August Bebel Kaserne.

3. a. Alte Kaserne:

Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia on 23 March 1950. Local residents said that 18 armored vehicles left toward Altengrabow on 15 March 1950.

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b. Neue Kaserne:

Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Local residents said that most of the troops from these barracks were in Altengrabow.

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A JS tank, four trucks, including [REDACTED] and one passenger car were entrained at the freight station. The vehicles left on a freight train toward Magdeburg at about 8 p.m. Fifty-five flatcars had been assembled at the Burg railroad station. Railroad employees stated that, by order of Soviet transportation authorities, these flatcars could be used for German purposes for only periods of a few days and had to be returned to Burg (4).

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Comment:

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- (3) The statements by local residents that tanks left Burg toward Altengrabow on 15 March 1950 and that troops from Burg were staying in Altengrabow are given credence. The troops possibly left for the nearby training grounds to hold temporary advanced combat practice firing.
- (4) The observation of empty rolling stock side-tracked at the Burg railroad station indicates that, at the end of March 1950, the troops had not yet been transferred to troop training grounds for summer maneuvers.
- (5) The vacating of the residential area on Corki-strasse by Soviet officer families again proves the repatriation to the Soviet Union of a large percentage of Soviet dependents.

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